1: Drew G-3 (1862-1872) 1875 AVI Kashmir AVI

upland space enclosed by the meeting of the ridges, where the Tavi has its source. At this high level there is a spread of gently undulating ground, with rounded knobs and smooth dells, a space pleasant to meet with after the steep slopes and narrow valleys. The higher hills had retired. As one viewed them from the top of some of the mounds, one saw a great difference in the look of those on the north from what we had seen on the south side of the valley. On the north was an amphitheatre made by rugged mountains of grey rock with snow-fields beneath; below the snow the amphitheatre enclosed a thick forest of alpine oak. This I saw when the evening sun was brightening the rounded masses of its foliage, from the midst of which rose here and there the straight forms of some dark fir trees.

The oak, *Quercus demicarpifolia*, in the native language *kreû*, is at this point the highest forest tree. Unlike the conifers, it flourishes on hills that have a south aspect; it grows certainly as high as 11,500 feet, and I think it reaches to close on 12,000 feet; of the firs the limit was only a little above 11,000 feet.

The depth of snow prevented my verifying the thought which came to me on seeing the undulating hillocky ground of this enclosed upland, namely, that the irregularities of its surface were the moraines and *roches moutonnées* of former glaciers. The end of May or June would be the time to follow up the inquiry, as the snow by then would have melted. The stream which we had traced up now divided. I was told that the southern branch came from a little lake called Kalli Kund. This strengthens the idea of glacier-traces, for mountain-lakes have often been caused, in one way or another, by the action of glaciers.* The G. T. Survey have marked the highest summit near—that at the meeting of.

* What appeared to me to be other signs of former glaciers, not very far from this, are the masses of rock which lie in lines in the Bhadarwâh Valley. The large blocks, mostly of gneiss, are sometimes as much as 40 feet long and 25 feet high; they are among an agglomeration of angular and rounded pieces of gneiss and slate. The heaps of the larger masses are seen to be arranged in curving lines, as the side valley they came from bent round to join the main one. I am not quite sure of their being moraines; avalanches perhaps may have had to do with forming them—avalanches of the kind that later on, under the head of Pâdar, will be described. The linear heaps extend below the level of the town, to, say, 5300 feet above the sea.

1: Drew G-3 (1862-1872) 1875 AV1 Kashmir AV1

the ridges—as 14,241 feet; it does not bear perpetual snow, but there is a very constant bed near, whence snow is sometimes sent for summer consumption to Jummoo, after being compressed by beating.

The other branch stream we followed to its source. The way led us to a part of the ridge that was depressed, when a few hundred feet of steeper ascent brought us to the Pass, which is 10,900 feet above the sea. The ridge it crosses bears the name of Seval Dhār. This Pass is closed by snow for three months from the middle of December; later in the season than we came it would be practicable for ponies, which, however, would have to be taken up the valley by a somewhat different road than ours.

The gaining of the summit opened to us a magnificent prospect as we looked beyond. On the right was the high peak, on this aspect brilliantly white with snow; from this mountain juts out a mighty spur, whose sides, that descend full 5000 feet, are clothed most thickly with fir forest. Spurs from other parts of the range make long ridges with dividing valleys; their sides, though not rocky, are steep-sloped, some parts of them grassy, some parts dotted with trees, and some completely covered with wood. Where these spurs end off, runs along nearly at right angles to them the Bhadarwāh Valley, a flat gently sloping to the north-west. The town and village that occupy it are in sight. Beyond that again rise hills like what we have near us, dark forest ridges, their spurs part grassy, part wooded. These are branched in such complication that their connection cannot be made out except by studying a map of them. Last beyond—seen clear over these ridges, stretching far right and left along the whole of the space visible between the near jutting hills—is a great snowy range, the one dividing Chamba from Pāngi, the continuation of which reaches to Kishtwār. It is a serrated rocky line, with wide snow-fields in front of it, part of which is permanent snow. Some lofty sharp-pointed peaks rise from the general level of the range; of these one has much the form of the Matterhorn. The higher mountains of this ridge measure 17,000 and 18,000 feet.

Down from the Pass was first a steep descent, which the snow